

EXHIBIT D**710.02(b)****MANUAL OF PATENT EXAMINING PROCEDURE**

(1) The period for submitting an oath or declaration in compliance with § 1.63;

(2) The period for submitting formal drawings set under § 1.85(c); and

(3) The period for making a deposit set under § 1.809(c).

37 CFR 1.136 implements 35 U.S.C. 41(a)(8) which directs the *>Director of the USPTO< to charge fees for extensions of time to take action in patent applications.

Under 37 CFR 1.136 (35 U.S.C. 133) an applicant may be required to reply in a shorter period than 6 months, not less than 30 days. Some situations in which shortened periods for reply are used are listed in MPEP § 710.02(b).

In other situations, for example, the rejection of a copied patent claim, the examiner may require applicant to reply on or before a specified date. These are known as time limit actions and are established under authority of 35 U.S.C. 2 and 3. Some situations in which time limits are set are noted in MPEP § 710.02(c). The time limit requirement should be typed in capital letters where required.

An indication of a shortened time for reply should appear prominently on the first page of all copies of actions in which a shortened time for reply has been set so that a person merely scanning the action can easily see it.

Shortened statutory periods are subject to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a) unless applicant is notified otherwise in an Office action. See MPEP § 710.02(e) for a discussion of extensions of time. See Chapter 2200 for >ex parte< reexamination proceedings and Chapter 2600 for *inter partes* reexamination proceedings.

710.02(b) Shortened Statutory Period: Situations in Which Used [R-2]

Under the authority given him or her by 35 U.S.C. 133, the *>Director of the USPTO< has directed the examiner to set a shortened period for reply to every action. The length of the shortened statutory period to be used depends on the type of reply required. Some specific cases of shortened statutory periods for reply are given below. These periods may be changed under special, rarely occurring circumstances.

A shortened statutory period may not be less than 30 days (35 U.S.C. 133).

1 MONTH (NOT LESS THAN 30 DAYS)

(A) Requirement for restriction or election of species only (no action on the merits) MPEP § 809.02(a) and § 817.

(B) When a reply by an applicant for a nonfinal Office action is *bona fide* but includes an inadvertent omission, the examiner may set a 1 month (not less than 30 days) shortened statutory time period to correct the omission MPEP § 710.01 and § 714.03.

2 MONTHS

(A) Winning party in a terminated interference to reply to an unanswered Office action MPEP § 2363.02.

Where, after the termination of an interference proceeding, the application of the winning party contains an unanswered Office action, final rejection or any other action, the primary examiner notifies the applicant of this fact. In this case reply to the Office action is required within a shortened statutory period running from the date of such notice. See *Ex parte Peterson*, 49 USPQ 119, 1941 C.D. 8, 525 O.G. 3 (Comm'r Pat. 1941).

(B) To reply to an *Ex parte Quayle* Office action MPEP § 714.14.

When an application is in condition for allowance, except as to matters of form, such as correction of the specification, a new oath, etc., the application will be considered special and prompt action taken to require correction of formal matters. Such action should include an indication on the Office Action Summary form PTOL-326 that prosecution on the merits is closed in accordance with the decision in *Ex parte Quayle*, 25 USPQ 74, 453 O.G. 213 (Comm'r Pat. 1935). A 2-month shortened statutory period for reply should be set.

(C) Multiplicity rejection — no other rejection MPEP § 2173.05(n).

3 MONTHS

To reply to any Office action on the merits.

PERIOD FOR REPLY RESTARTED

**>Where the citation of a reference is incorrect or an Office action contains some other defect and this error is called to the attention of the Office within 1 month of the mail date of the action, the Office will